



FW

Mail Stop Patent Examiner
Fenn C. Mathew
USPTO
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Mathew,

concerning application number 10/709,477
Filed May 7, 2004

I have enclosed a sample of the neck trainer.

I look forward to speaking with you on the phone when you have had a chance to see it.

My device creates a large soft air pocket between the head, neck and shoulders. The large pocket of air trapped in an elastomeric bladder serves as a resistance device to enable gentle exercise of the neck muscles.

During an exercise movement, the elastomeric air filled bladder is repeatedly compressed.

Thank you for citing prior art patent number 5,857,948. Claim 1. recites a "rigid conformable non-compactable structure that enables the bag to conform to the shape of a person's cervical To provide a conforming rigid support for the cervical during abdominal excercises....

The our sales literature shows our device also being used as a passive relaxation device similar to a cervical pillow. This looks like a sit up but is different. However, this use is secondary and not included in the patent.

The main point is that the prior art shows a conformable surface for comfortably supporting the neck during abdominal exercises, while our device uses a much larger elastomeric air filled bladder to support and provide a compressible form of gentle resistance for the purpose of exercising the neck muscles.

I would like to discuss this briefly with you on the phone before amending the claims to point out the distinctions over the prior art.

Sincerely,

Sam Patterson

Sam Patterson

cell 954-816-7972



5-15-07

To whom it may concern,

I am happy to write this letter of testimony for the Schwann Neck Stabilizer. I have used this product for over two years in my physical therapy practice. I personally have been in practice for almost twenty years and am board certified as an orthopedic physical therapy specialist.

The Schwann Neck Stabilizer is a simple and practical product. I have used it with numerous whip lash patients suffering from cervical instability and without exception every patient has validated its effectiveness. It has a design that allows the patient to get into a comfortable position which is sometimes difficult for those with acute injuries. The teaching curve is also very quick so patients will tend use it several times per day on their own. Obviously, home exercise compliance is critical when rehabilitating injuries especially the neck. Patients who use the Swann neck stabilizer have excellent compliance because of its feasibility.

Most important this product produces results. Cervical stability is enhanced though a complex neuromuscular reeducation system of facilitating the deeply rooted muscles that have a mechanical advantage in supporting the spine while at the same time inhibiting the more superficial spasmodic muscles that produce spasms and guarding. The result is optimal increases in range of motion, improved posture, and increased strength. In almost all cases these factors correlate with a reduction of pain and increased functional activity levels that the patients are delighted to achieve.

In summary this is an excellent product. I would recommend it to any clinician who works with cervical spine injuries and for that matter all individuals interested in improving the quality of their own neck.

Sincerely,

Bill Fabrocini PT, OCS, CSCS



April 30, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to tell you about the wonderful results our patients have had using the Swan Neck Trainer. It has been extremely useful in the treatments for acute cervical sprains and overuse issues of the upper trapezius and levator scapulae. It is easy to use, promotes correct posture, improves range of motion, and helps develop proper strength of the deep cervical musculature. If done correctly, it is comfortable and extremely effective. I recommend it to all cervical patients.

Sincerely,

Chris Peshek, P.T., O.C.S.
1450 Crystal Lake Road
Aspen, CO 81611
(970) 925-8940



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HOSPITAL

0401 Castle Creek Road • Aspen, Colorado 81611 • 970/925-1120



I have used the Swan Neck Trainer in my physical therapy practice for several years. I use it for neuromuscular reeducation, pain relief, and restorative purposes. It is a simple modality to explain to the patient, relatively inexpensive, and convenient for a home exercise program as the patient progresses toward independence. I highly recommend the Swan Neck Trainer as a treatment modality for spine and shoulder orthopedic dysfunctions.

Jaclynn Derosier, P.T.
Aspen Valley Hospital

Jaclynn Derosier, P.T.



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